



Department of Justice

**United States Attorney David C. Weiss
District of Delaware**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
TUESDAY, JUNE 22, 2010
WWW.USDOJ.GOV/USAO/DE/

CONTACT: DAVID L. HALL
PHONE: (302) 573-6277
FAX: (302) 573-6220

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNT SENTENCED TO PRISON IN FRAUD CASE

United States Attorney David C. Weiss announced that, earlier today, Stephen P. Sassi was sentenced to a term of incarceration of 36 months, following his February guilty plea to a one count felony Information charging wire fraud, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343.

Sassi, 46, is a resident of West Chester, Pennsylvania. He was a certified public accountant.

According to the Information, Sassi executed a scheme to defraud Dr. F. F. and Mid-Atlantic Pain Institute (MAPI), both of Newark, of approximately \$899,418 between 2002 and 2007. Dr. F. F. and MAPI were among his clients. As part of the fraud scheme, Sassi fraudulently transferred funds from accounts owned by Dr. F. F. and MAPI into Sassi & Associates accounts controlled by Sassi. In addition, as part of the plea agreement, Sassi agreed that by virtue of separate fraudulent conduct, he also embezzled funds from Dr. B.R. and Spine Care of Delaware, causing an additional loss in the amount of \$565,000.

Sassi was ordered to pay \$367,769 in restitution, having repaid the remainder of the embezzled funds.

In pronouncing sentence, Judge Joseph J. Farnan noted that a sentence of imprisonment was appropriate because Sassi's crimes were motivated by greed. Judge Farnan also noted that Sassi had abused the trust of his clients.

U.S. Attorney David C. Weiss said, “This investigation and prosecution demonstrate our commitment to addressing the serious problem of fraud committed by those in positions of trust. I commend our law enforcement partner, the Delaware State Police, for their diligence and professionalism.”

This case was being prosecuted by David L. Hall, Assistant United States Attorney. For further information, contact United States Attorney David C. Weiss at (302) 573-6277.

###